REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-7 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, Applicant AMENDS claims 1 and ADDS claims 6 and 7.

Claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for allegedly containing subject matter that was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skill in the relevant art that the inventors, at the time of the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Applicant has amended claim 1 to correct the minor informality noted by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

Claims 1, 2, 4, and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohira (JP 07-131209) in view of Okada et al. (EP 09003801 A2). Claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maeda et al. (U.S. 3,836,874) in view of Ohira and Okada et al. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 1-5.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite:

> "A nonreciprocal circuit device comprising:
> a plurality of central conductors overlappingly intersecting with each other and disposed on a magnetic member for receiving a DC magnetic field; and
> a coiled-shaped inductor connected at its ends to at least one portion section of said central conductors and to a signal input/output terminal, respectively; wherein
> said magnetic member has a substantially rectangular shape with four edge surfaces;
> a longitudinal axis of said inductor is parallel to a major surface of said magnetic member;
> said major surface of said magnetic member is perpendicular to a direction of said DC magnetic field;
> a magnetic flux produced by said inductor passes in a direction that is perpendicular to the direction of said DC magnetic field with respect to said magnetic member; and
> **a h ight of th longitudinal axis of aid inductor i**

substantially equal to a position of a center height of said magnetic member." (emphasis added)

Claim 6 recites:

"A nonreciprocal circuit device comprising:
a plurality of central conductors overlappingly intersecting with each other and disposed on a magnetic member for receiving a DC magnetic field; and
a coiled-shaped inductor connected at its ends to at least one portion section of said central conductors and to a signal input/output terminal, respectively; wherein
said magnetic member has a substantially rectangular shape with four edge surfaces;
a longitudinal axis of said inductor is parallel to a major surface of said magnetic member;
said major surface of said magnetic member is perpendicular to a direction of said DC magnetic field;
a magnetic flux produced by said inductor passes in a direction that is perpendicular to the direction of said DC magnetic field with respect to said magnetic member; and
both ends of said inductor are parallel to said longitudinal axis of said inductor." (emphasis added)

Applicant's claim 1 recites the feature of "a height of the longitudinal axis of said inductor is substantially equal to a position of a center height of said magnetic member." Applicant's claim 6 recites the feature of "both ends of said inductor are parallel to said longitudinal axis of said inductor." With the improved features of claims 1 and 6, Applicant has been able to provide a nonreciprocal circuit device with an inductor that is compact and capable of obtaining a large attenuation in the specified frequency band without increasing the cost (see, for example, the first full paragraph on page 5 of the originally filed Specification).

Applicant has amended claim 1 to recite the feature of "a height of the longitudinal axis of said inductor is substantially equal to a position of a center height of said magnetic member" (see the paragraph bridging pages 12 and 13 for a description

of this feature). None of Ohira, Okada et al., and Maeda et al., which the Examiner relied upon to reject claim 1, teaches or suggests this feature.

Ohira et al. teaches in **Fig. 5** that the magnetic member **6** is inserted into the hole of substrate **5** and the inductor **11** is mounted on an upper surface of the substrate. Thus, Ohira et al. teaches that the height of the longitudinal axis of the inductor **11** is clearly **above** the center height of the magnetic member **6**, **NOT** that the height of the longitudinal axis of the inductor is **substantially equal** to the center height of the magnetic member. Thus, Ohira et al. clearly fails teach or suggest the feature of "a height of the longitudinal axis of said inductor is substantially equal to a position of a center height of said magnetic member" as recited in Applicant's claim 1.

Okada et al. fails to teach or suggest the use of **any** inductor, and certainly fails teach or suggest the feature of "a height of the longitudinal axis of said inductor is substantially equal to a position of a center height of said magnetic member" as recited in Applicant's claim 1.

Applicant agrees with the Examiner's statement in the paragraph bridging pages 3 and 4 of the outstanding Office Action that Maeda et al. "does not disclose the coiled wire's orientation." Thus, Maeda et al. fails teach or suggest the orientation of the inductor as recited in Applicant's claim 1, and, more specifically, Maeda et al. clearly fails to teach or suggest the feature of "a height of the longitudinal axis of said inductor is substantially equal to a position of a center height of said magnetic member" as recited in Applicant's claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohira in view of Okada et al. and under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maeda et al. in view of Ohira and Okada et al..

Applicant has added claim 6 which recites the feature of "both ends of said inductor are parallel to said longitudinal axis of said inductor." None of Ohira, Okada et al., and Maeda et al. teach or suggest this feature. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully

submit that claim 6 is allowable.

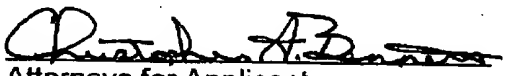
Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Ohira, Okada et al., and Maeda et al., applied alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest the unique combination and arrangement of elements recited in claims 1 and 6 of the present application. Claims 2-5 depend upon claim 1 and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons that claim 1 is allowable. Claim 7 depends upon claim 6 and is therefore allowable for at least the reasons that claim 6 is allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1353.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 22, 2003



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